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August 11, 1978

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Georgetown post
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Dear Mr. Ellice,

Your name was given to me by [redacted] I had written to him about my extreme concern for the welfare of [redacted] Brian Bouquet, who is at the People's Temple outpost at Jonestown, Guyana. [redacted] said that he had spoken to you, and suggested that I write to you, since you are going to Jonestown in the near future.

I'm sending you some material on this organization which I hope may be helpful to you in assessing the situation. The two enclosed affidavits have been sent to the U.S. State Dept, but it appears to be very difficult to get any help — perhaps due to the fact that the People's Temple is a "religion".

My greatest concern is finding out from reliable sources, what is really happening there. I am frightened of the allegations that Mr. Jones has made

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threats of "mass suicide", and I wish to know whether my son is staying there of his own free will or is, in fact, a prisoner. According to the only two witnesses who have left Jonestown, there are beatings and tortures, and people are even in fear of their lives.

Aside from what I've read and heard from ex-members of the temple I believe Jones to be a fake, at best. His claims of cancer healings and even raising people from the dead are ridiculous. My son is influenced by him to a great degree However, I realize that this can't be helped. What needs to be done, I feel, in view of the extremely serious nature of the charges against Jones and his henchmen, is to send a team of investigators into Jonestown for at least two weeks, to see what the truth is. Visits once in awhile, which are announced beforehand, are not adequate, since Mr. Jones is

apparently forcing people to put on a show for visitors.

I am trusting you, Mr. Ellice, as the U. S. representative in Guyana, to keep my name and that of my son in strictest confidence, as I would not want any harm to come to my son. Would you please attempt, in a very discreet way, to find him while you are at Jonestown, without making a big thing of it, and, if possible, talk privately to him about his feelings about staying or leaving? I will send an airline ticket to you at any time should he wish to come home. I'm enclosing a picture of Brian and his wife, Claudia (whom I will also be glad to help) with the hope that you may be able to recognize him without saying that I was inquiring. He has been writing to me sometimes, and I was able to talk with him for his twenty-fifth birthday, last month, on the short

wave radio. He was attempting to refute the charges made by Deborah Layton, item by item, even though I had not asked about it. He also was comparing Mr. Jones to Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King. He was rather annoyed that I had sent a letter to him through Mr. Paul McCloskey's office, in Washington. I did that in hopes that it would get through to him without being censored.

I am trying very hard to keep a good relationship with him, so as not to lose contact. I'm sure you'll be able to understand why I'm so worried about the whole situation, and especially because it is so difficult to find out what is really happening.

I would be very grateful for any information you can give me, and also any help you could afford my son and his wife, should they request it. I'm very grateful to [redacted] for his help,

and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thanks so much for your help.

Sincerely,

[redacted]